REMARKS

This Amendment is filed in response to the Office Action mailed on March 22, 2007. All objections and rejections are respectfully traversed.

Claims 1-18 are currently pending.

Claims 13-18 are added.

Applicant thanks the Examiner for the Interview on June 12, 2007, where the amendments to claims 1 and 4 were discussed.

Request for Interview

The Applicant respectfully requests a telephonic interview with the Examiner after the Examiner has had an opportunity to consider this Amendment, but before the issuance of the next Office Action. The Applicant may be reached at 617-951-3067.

Claim Rejections – 35 USC § 102

At page 2 of the Office Action, claims 1-12 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102 as being anticipated by Ketchum, US Patent No. 5,862,804, hereinafter Ketchum.

The present invention, as shown in representative claim 1 as amended, comprises in part:

> 1. A leak point wetness detector for urological investigations comprising:
> an instrument body having a passage therethrough to pass a catheter, which catheter is intended for insertion into the bladder through the urethra;

> a receptacle in said instrument body so arranged and disposed as to receive liquid which leaks from the urethra past the inserted catheter;
>
> a temperature sensitive detector sensor mounted to said instrument body where it will be contacted by said leaked liquid, said detector sensor being responsive to the temperature of said liquid and adapted to provide a signal output respective to said temperature;
>
> ***a signal generator to generate and provide a reference output signal simulative of a selected temperature, where the selected temperature is below that of an anticipated temperature of said leaked liquid, and where the output signal of the selected temperature remains constant and is independent of ambient temperature***; and
>
> a comparator responsive to the difference between said outputs to detect and inform when the signal output sufficiently exceeds said reference output.

By way of background, Ketchum discloses a leakpoint wetness sensor that uses two temperature sensors. A first temperature sensor measures ambient temperature and a second temperature sensor measures the temperature of the liquid. A circuit device receives the outputs from the two sensors, and provides a response when there is a difference between the outputs of the two temperature sensors.

Applicant respectfully urges that Ketchum does not disclose Applicant's claimed novel ***signal generator to generate and provide a reference output signal simulative of a selected temperature, where the selected temperature is below that of an anticipated temperature of said leaked liquid, and where the output signal of the selected temperature remains constant and is independent of ambient temperature***. In further detail, in Applicant's claimed invention a single temperature sensor measures the temperature of the leaked liquid. A comparator measures the difference between the output of the temperature sensor and the signal from the signal generator. In contrast, Ketchum discloses measuring the difference from two temperature sensors. There is no disclosure in

Ketchum of using a signal generator, as claimed by Applicant.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully urges that Ketchum is legally precluded from anticipating Applicant's claimed novel invention under 35 U.S.C. 102 because of the absence from Ketchum of Applicant's claimed novel ***signal generator to generate and provide a reference output signal simulative of a selected temperature, where the selected temperature is below that of an anticipated temperature of said leaked liquid, and where the output signal of the selected temperature remains constant and is independent of ambient temperature***.

Additionally, there is no disclosure in Ketchum of Applicant's claimed novel use of a single temperature sensor and a rate of change detector as claimed in representative claim 4, which is currently amended.

> ***a single temperature sensitive detector sensor*** mounted to said instrument body where it will be contacted by said leaked liquid, said detector sensor being responsive to the temperature of said liquid and adapted to provide a signal output respective to said temperature;
>
> ***a rate of change detector to detect a rate of change in the signal output from said single temperature sensitive detector sensor, said detected rate of change corresponding to a rate of change in temperature at said detector sensor.***

All independent claims are believed to be in condition for allowance.

All dependent claims are believed to be dependent from allowable independent claims, and therefore in condition for allowance.

Favorable action is respectfully solicited.

Please charge any additional fee occasioned by this paper to our Deposit Account No. 03-1237.

Respectfully submitted,

/shannen c. delaney/

Shannen C. Delaney
Reg. No. 51,805
CESARI AND MCKENNA, LLP
88 Black Falcon Avenue
Boston, MA 02210-2414
(617) 951-2500